

**Amendments to the Claims :**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

1. (Currently Amended) A multi-port, bottom-filling injection device comprising:  
a filling head having a plurality of spouts, wherein said filling head further comprises a spout cap, said spouts are inextensible and fixedly attached to the spout cap, and said spout cap distributes a flow of filling among the spouts;  
5 a platen having a plurality of spout channels through which the plurality of spouts can pass, wherein each one of the plurality of spouts is vertically aligned with one of the plurality of spout channels; and  
a holding apparatus disposed above the platen, wherein the holding apparatus is capable of securing a chambered food item upon the platen;  
10 wherein said platen has a depression mold that is complementary to the shape of said chambered food item, such that said chambered food item can be snugly seated into the depression mold.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 1 wherein each one of the plurality of spouts has an elongate, cylindrical midsection and a tapered injection tip.

4. (Original) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 1 wherein each one of the plurality of spouts has a sharp end.
5. (Original) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 1 wherein each one of the plurality of spouts has a spout-tip opening at its terminal end.
6. (Original) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 1 wherein each one of the plurality of spouts has at least one spout-tip opening on its side near its terminal end.
7. (Original) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 1 wherein the filling head further comprises a positive shut-off mechanism for shutting off a flow of filling to the plurality of spouts.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Currently Amended) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of ~~Claim 8~~ Claim 1 wherein the depression mold of the platen has a five-pointed star shape.
10. (Original) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 1 wherein each one of the plurality of spout channels is wider than the diameter of each one of the plurality of spouts.

11. (Original) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 1 wherein the plurality of spout channels can accommodate several spout sizes and arrangements.
12. (Original) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 1 wherein the holding apparatus comprises a header and a plurality of stems attached to the header.

13. (Currently Amended) A multi-port, bottom-filling injection device comprising:

a filling head having a plurality of spouts;

a platen having a plurality of spout channels through which the plurality of  
spouts can pass, wherein each one of the plurality of spouts is vertically aligned

with one of the plurality of spout channels;

a holding apparatus disposed above the platen, wherein the holding  
apparatus is capable of securing a chambered food item upon the platen; and

~~The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 1 further comprising~~

a rope conveyor that comprises a plurality of ropes, wherein said platen

further comprises a plurality of parallel grooves, and further wherein said ropes

lie within said parallel grooves.

Claims 14-22 (Canceled)

23. (New) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 13 wherein said filling head further comprises a spout cap, said spouts are fixedly attached to the spout cap, and said spout cap distributes a flow of filling among the spouts.

24. (New) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 13 wherein each one of the plurality of spouts has an elongate, cylindrical midsection and a tapered injection tip.

25. (New) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 13 wherein each one of the plurality of spouts has a sharp end.
26. (New) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 13 wherein each one of the plurality of spouts has a spout-tip opening at its terminal end.
27. (New) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 13 wherein each one of the plurality of spouts has at least one spout-tip opening on its side near its terminal end.
28. (New) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 13 wherein the filling head further comprises a positive shut-off mechanism for shutting off a flow of filling to the plurality of spouts.
29. (New) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 13 wherein said platen has a depression mold that is complementary to the shape of said chambered food item, such that said chambered food item can be snugly seated into the depression mold.
30. (New) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 13 wherein the depression mold of the platen has a five-pointed star shape.
31. (New) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 13 wherein each one of the plurality of spout channels is wider than the diameter of each one of the plurality of spouts.

32. (New) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 13 wherein the plurality of spout channels can accommodate several spout sizes and arrangements.
33. (New) The multi-port, bottom-filling injection device of Claim 13 wherein the holding apparatus comprises a header and a plurality of stems attached to the header.